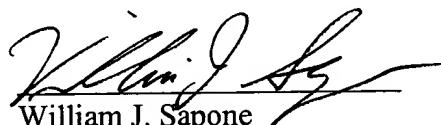


patentability of claim 1 over Spranger renders moot the rejections of claims 2-7, and consequently claims 1-7 are believed patentable over the art of record.

With this amendment all of claims 1-11 are believed patentable and the application in condition for allowance.

Based on the above amendments and remarks, favorable consideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested. However, should the examiner believe that direct contact with the applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of the application, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



William J. Sapone
Registration No. 32,518
Attorney for Applicant(s)

COLEMAN SUDOL SAPONE, P.C.
714 Colorado Avenue
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06605-1601
Telephone No. (203) 366-3560
Facsimile No. (203) 335-6779



RECEIVED

FEB 27 2003

AMENDED CLAIM

GROUP 3600

1. (Twice amended) Apparatus for the cutting up of fish and fish fillets in slices, comprising a feeding unit which comprises means for the feeding of the fish/fillets, said feeding unit conveying the fish/fillets to a cutting unit which cuts the fish/fillets in slices, and means for the collection and processing of data, in which the means for the collection and processing of data comprise means for the registration of the length of the fish/fillet in the feeding direction and/or the weight of the fish/fillet, and the feeding unit comprises a plane on which the fish/fillet is placed and fed forward, said plane forming a settable and adjustable angle to the horizontal plane, means for the automatic adjustment and setting of the angle of the plane during cutting in relation to the cutting unit as a function of the length and/or the weight of the fish/fillet to cut the fish into equal portions, and also a gripping device which comprises means for the handling of the slices from the area in which the cutting takes place.